Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM 2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6143

> Majority (202) 225–5074 Minority (202) 225–5051 February 5, 2001

Carol Elder Bruce, Esq. Tighe, Patton, Armstrong & Teasdale 1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: Denise Rich

Dear Ms. Bruce:

As you know, the Committee on Government Reform is conducting an investigation into the pardons issued by former President Clinton to Marc Rich and Pincus Green. As part of that investigation, the Committee would like your client, Denise Rich, to answer a number of questions. When Committee staff were contacted by you on February 2, 2001, they requested an interview with Ms. Rich, and you made it clear that Committee staff would not likely be able to interview Ms. Rich in the near future. I understand that this is a stressful time for your client, and I do not wish to add to her discomfort unnecessarily. Therefore, I am submitting a number of written questions. If Ms. Rich can answer the questions in writing, by 12:00 p.m., February 8, 2001, it will greatly assist the Committee's inquiry. In addition, Ms. Rich's written responses may make it unnecessary for the Committee to call Ms. Rich as a witness at public hearings. If Ms. Rich fails to answer these questions, it will be necessary to subpoena her to testify before the Committee during the week of February 12, 2001.

Please have Ms. Rich answer the following questions:

- 1. Were all political contributions made by you between 1992 and the present made with your own money?
- 2. Were you reimbursed for any political contribution made by you?
- 3. Were you ever provided with money by any individual so that you could make a political contribution?
- 4. Are you aware of any communications with Marc Rich or his advisers that suggested to you that either you or your children would benefit financially as a consequence of your support of Marc Rich's pardon?

- 5. Provide a listing of all bank account information, including the name of the bank and account number, for all accounts used to make political contributions to political candidates or political campaign committees, or the Presidential Library Foundation, the Clinton Presidential Foundation, the Clinton Legal Expense Trust, or the Presidential Legal Expense Trust, between 1992 and the present.
- 6. How much money have you given or pledged toward the Clinton library?
- 7. Did you ever discuss a presidential pardon with Marc Rich? If so, describe the substance, place and time of such discussions.
- 8. Did you ever discuss a presidential pardon with any adviser to, employee of, or attorney to, Marc Rich? If so, describe the substance, place and time of such discussions.
- 9. Describe all contacts you have had with President Bill Clinton regarding your former husband, Marc Rich.
- 10. Did you ever discuss a pardon for Marc Rich with President Clinton? If so, describe the substance, place and time of such discussions.
- 11. Did you ever discuss a pardon for Marc Rich with any other White House staff? If so, describe the substance, including the place and time, of such discussions.
- 12. Did you ever discuss a pardon for any other individual with President Clinton or any other White House staff? If so, please describe the substance, the identity of the individual seeking the pardon, and the place and time of such discussions.
- 13. Please list all gifts that you have given either to former President Clinton or to Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton.
- 14. Did you provide an initial draft of your letter in support of Mr. Rich's pardon to any of his attorneys? If not, did they provide the initial draft of the letter supporting Mr. Rich's pardon to you?

Please provide written answers to the foregoing questions, signed by Ms. Rich, by 12:00 p.m. February 8, 2001. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact the Committee's Chief Counsel, James C. Wilson, at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,

Dan Burton Chairman

cc:

TIGHE PATTON ARMSTRONG TEASDALE, PLLC

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February 7, 2001

By facsimile (202) 225-3974
The Honorable Dan Burton, Chairman
Committee on Government Reform
2187 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

cc:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 5, 2001, in which you requested that my client, Ms. Denise Rich, respond by 12 noon tomorrow to certain questions in connection with the Committee's investigation into the pardons issued by former President Clinton to Marc Rich and Pincus Green. This is to inform you that, upon advice of counsel, Ms. Rich is asserting her privilege under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution not to be a witness against herself and, accordingly, will not be answering any questions of the Chairman or the Committee.

I have met with your Chief Counsel, Jim Wilson, concerning this matter and understand that this letter should be sufficient to communicate my client's decision. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol Elder Bruce

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Minority Member